

REMARKS

Claims 1-105 were pending in the present application. By virtue of this response, claims 1-93 have been withdrawn, claims 94, 99, and 101-105 have been amended, claims 98 and 100 have been cancelled, and claims 106-110 have been added. Accordingly, claims 94-97, 99, and 101-110 are currently under consideration. Amendment and cancellation of certain claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented.

I. Amendments/New Claims

Applicants have amended claim 94 to include features of claims 98 and 100, and claims 99, and 101-105 have been amended to correct claim dependency. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Applicants have added new claims 106-110, which are supported, e.g., by the claims as originally presented and throughout the specification. Applicants believe new claims 106-110 are allowable.

Applicants have further amended the Abstract with a replacement paragraph as indicated above.

II. Election/Restriction

Applicants hereby affirm the election of claims 94-105 with traverse. Applicants expressly reserve their right under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file a divisional application directed to the nonelected subject matter during the pendency of this application, or an application claiming priority from this application.

III. Claim Rejections

Claims 94-105 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,932,045 to Campbell (hereinafter “Campbell”).

Claim 94 has been amended to include the features of claims 98 and 100. Applicants submit that Campbell does not disclose or suggest a multilayer article including a substrate, wherein “the substrate has at least one hole for dispensing an adherent through the substrate,” as recited by claim 94, nor is Campbell alleged to include such features in the Office Action. Campbell describes, for example, bringing “the inner surface of substrate 24 into contact with the adherent 28” and pressing the substrates 24 and 26 together with enough force to spread the adherent. (Col. 7, line 57 to col. 8, line 3). Campbell fails to disclose or suggest, however, a hole in the substrate for dispensing an adherent through the substrate. Accordingly, claim 94 is allowable over Campbell.

Claims 95-97, 99, and 101-107 depend from claim 94 and should be allowable for at least similar reasons as claim 94.

IV. Conclusion

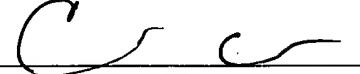
In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket

no.495812000300. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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